

Donovan Trip Spurs Hope Of Freedom For Prisoners

CPYRGHT

Havana, Oct. 7 (AP) — Informed sources here have high hopes tonight that the release of 1,113 Cuban invasion prisoners would be announced as early as tomorrow. All that appeared to be in the way of their freedom was the formal communique.

Mrs. Berta Barreto de los Heros, Havana representative of the Cuban families committee negotiating with the Castro regime for the prisoners' release, said it appeared that "all went well, thank God."

She refused to elaborate on the comment because she had been pledged to silence during the final stages of the talks. But the impression here was that only a few formalities remained to be worked out.

Castro Meeting Hinted

This impression was strengthened by the quick trip of New York attorney James B. Donovan, negotiator for the Cuban committee, from Havana to Miami aboard an unscheduled Pan American World Airlines plane.

Mrs. Barreto confirmed that the trip was in connection with the negotiations. Speculation arose that Donovan was arranging special transportation to ferry the captives to Florida. Donovan

flew back to Havana Sunday night.

On Saturday, Mrs. Barreto denied reports from Miami that the prisoners' release had already been obtained. She said then that Donovan was to meet Prime Minister Fidel Castro again, possibly on Monday.

Optimists in Miami's sprawling Cuban colony saw a possibility the prisoners would be freed and flown there shortly after the next Donovan - Castro meeting.

Knowledge Denied

Committee spokesmen in Miami professed no knowledge of Donovan's Miami errand, but they said they have learned the negotiations are going well.

In New York, Donovan's family said he telephoned today, but the family would not say what was discussed except that he was going back to Cuba before returning home.

An informed source in New York said Donovan reported negotiations going well but indicated he may not be back in time for an upstate New York campaign tour scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. He is the Democratic candidate opposing Senator Javits (R., N.Y.).